

4th Annual Pavement Preservation Conference a Great Success

The new State Pavements Engineer and conference co-chair, Dr Shakir Shatnawi, opened the meeting by welcoming over 300 participants to Oakland to the 4th annual pavement preservation conference held on April 8-9, 2009. The keynote speaker started the conference of with a bang. Randy Iwasaki, Chief Deputy Director for Caltrans, stressed the importance of pavement preservation to the state of California and noted the growth of the Caltrans program under the State Maintenance Engineer, Steve Takigawa. He also recognized the unofficial national leader of pavement preservation, James Sorenson, of FHWA who helped get the national program started back in the early 1990's. Larry Patterson, Director of Public Works for the City of San Mateo, followed by describing the successful program developed under his leadership to gain control of their pavements program. He attributed the success to his staff and the pavement management program, which resulted in a growth of the pavement condition index (PCI) over the past few years.



Randy Iwasaki



Larry Patterson

Following the keynote remarks, Randy Iwasaki then recognized the winners of the prestigious Pavement Preservation Task Group (PPTG) awards for 2008 as follows:

- Program Award - City of Los Gatos. Accepted for Jim Gustafson, Engineering Services Manager, City of Los Gatos, by Laura Melendy, LTAP
- Project Award - Caltrans, District 3, “The Fix I-5 Project in Sacramento”, accepted by Joe Peterson, District 3 Materials Engineer
- Individual Awards - Both Caltrans and Industry were represented with the individual awards. Steve Takigawa, Chief, Caltrans Division of Maintenance, and Don Matthews, Pavement Recycling Systems were recognized for their contributions to pavement preservation in the State of California.



Project award (Iwasaki, Rouen and Peterson)



Individual Award (Takigawa, Rouen and Iwasaki)



Individual award (Iwasaki, Rouen and Matthews)

Attendees were reminded to plan for the 2009 awards. Nomination forms can be obtained from the conference website located at www.cp2info.org/conference. After the awards ceremony the participants adjourned to the exhibit hall where over 30 exhibitors displayed their wares and/or services to the attendees. All breaks took place in the exhibit hall where participants took time to visit with the vendors.



Marc Mitchell, Hans Ho and Jim Ryan enjoying the break

Breakout sessions on Regulatory compliance issues and Pavement Management Systems were well attended and discussed important issues facing agencies and industry. The regulatory issues discussed could have a great impact on the construction industry while it was emphasized that pavement preservation programs are difficult to sustain without a strong pavement management program. The morning session concluded with a discussion of energy and emission impacts of roads which clearly showed that preservation and recycling are green technologies.

The afternoon breakout sessions consisted of Quieter-Greener Pavements and Pavement Distress and Strategy Selection followed by a plenary session on the Economic Stimulus

Update and Funding for pavement preservation programs. The Quieter-Greener Pavements session discussed quiet pavements, pavement recycling, and sustainable preservation strategies. The Pavement Distress and Strategy Selection session discuss techniques for selecting appropriate preservation strategies for flexible and rigid pavements.

The first day concluded with an excellent update on the future of the nation's transportation program, followed by two case histories from local agencies in the Bay Area, and a presentation on the California statewide local streets and roads needs assessment. Bottom-line, our pavement needs far exceed the available funding. We have to look to alternative ways to fund our pavements.



Economic update Romell, Waidelich,, Yapp, Bradshaw and Dodsworth

The second day of the conference began with an update on innovations and new technologies. Dr Mary Stroup-Gardiner started the session by discussing the status of the Caltrans innovation program, which is funded at \$5,000,000 per year. This was followed by discussion of the engineering needs for recycling, a major initiative Caltrans is about to embark on, and a discussion by Dr. John Harvey on the economic benefits of pavement preservation.

The rest of the day consisted of breakout discussions on concrete and pavement preservation treatments. A number of excellent presentations were given on the benefits of preservation as well on typical treatments used in the state of California. Topics discussed included:

- Concrete Pavements - Overview of pavement preservation, Benefits of concrete preservation, Diamond grinding, partial and full depth slab repair, and dowel bar retrofit.
- Flexible pavements - Slurry surfacings, chip seals, fog and rejuvenating seals, crack seals, bonded wearing courses, thin HMA overlays including warm mixes, and rubberized asphalt

The conference was closed by Larry Rouen, Acting Chief, Office of Pavement Preservation. He concluded by stating the conference was a great success and reminded all to attend the 1st International conference on Pavement preservation in April 2010. The website for this conference is located at www.pavementpreservation.org/icpp/ .

Reminder: All of the presentations can be found at the conference website located at www.cp2info.org/conference .